

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
HELD IN NEW YORK CITY ON SEPTEMBER 6, 1933

The third meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts during the fiscal year 1934, was held at the Century Association, 7 West 43rd Street, New York City, on September 6, 1933. The following members were present:

Mr. Moore, Chairman,
Mr. Swartwout,
Mr. Lawrie,
Mr. Savage.

There were also present Mr. Wm. Mitchell Kendall of the firm of McKim, Mead and White, Mr. Paul P. Cret, architect, and Mr. Clement E. Chase, and Mr. E. Masters.

The purpose of the meeting was to consider sketches for the new Calvert Street Bridge submitted by Dr. Paul Cret, consulting architect for Modjeski, Masters and Chase, engineers of Philadelphia. Dr. Cret had made a number of sketches, which were inspected by the Commission. After consideration the Commission reached the following conclusions:

1. Satisfactory to develop the bridge on existing axis of Calvert Street, keeping in mind the possible ultimate development of a common bridge-head for two bridges, tentative sketch of which was submitted and is to be drawn out by Dr. Cret.
2. Approve three arch plan with solid spandrels, spans to be of approximately the same order of length as those in the Connecticut Avenue Bridge.
3. Recommend the execution of the work in stone faced masonry to attain the desired simplicity and effectiveness.
4. Recommend an open railing to permit view of the valley.

5. In considering Plans A and B, the Commission preferred Plan B, which is a modification of Plan A in the direction of simplicity and approve the development of final plans in accordance therewith.

A report was sent by the Commission of Fine Arts to Dr. Reichelderfer, President of the Board of Commissioners of the District of Columbia, accordingly. (Exhibit A)

At a meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts held at the Century Association, New York City, on September 2, 1933, questions of design for the Calverton Street Bridge were submitted by Mr. Paul Crot, architect and were discussed with him and representatives of the engineering firm of Haffner, Easton and Sperry.

The following conclusions were reached:

First. The new bridge should be erected on the present site of Calverton Street. Tentative location of the future development of Calverton Street is the westerly line of Kensington Avenue, with provision for a common bridge head for both the Calverton Street and the Kensington Avenue bridges were discussed and the plan which was adopted is to be developed further by Mr. Crot. It was indicated that there is an immediate possibility of erecting such a common bridge head, but it was noted because that increase of traffic will ultimately require such bridge, and that plans are now being made in accordance with such future development.

Second. The Commission approved a bridge of three spans with solid spans, the middle to be approximately the same

C O P Y

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS

Washington, D. C.

September 8, 1933.

Dear Dr. Reichelderfer:

At a meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts held at the Century Association, New York City, on September 6, 1933, sketches of designs for the Calvert Street Bridge were submitted by Dr. Paul Cret, architect and were discussed with him and representatives of the engineering firm of Modjeski, Masters and Chase.

The following conclusions were reached:

First. The new bridge should be erected on the present line of Calvert Street. Tentative sketches of the future development of Calvert Street to the westerly line of Connecticut Avenue, with provision for a common bridge head for both the Calvert Street and the Connecticut Avenue bridges were discussed and one such sketch was selected to be developed further by Dr. Cret.

It was understood that there is no immediate possibility of developing such a common bridge head; but it also seems certain that increase of traffic will ultimately require such action, and that plans now made should be in accordance with such future development.

Second. The Commission approved a bridge of three arches with solid spandrels, the arches to be approximately the same

order of length as those of the Connecticut Avenue Bridge.

Third. The Commission approved the use of stone-faced masonry in order to attain durability, simplicity and effectiveness.

Fourth. The Commission approved the use of an open metal rail in order to permit views from the bridge into the valley.

Fifth. The Commission, after considering with Dr. Cret the many sketches submitted, selected those marked A and B as the basis of final plans. The Commission preferred Plan B, which is a modification of Plan A in the direction of simplicity. The Commission therefore approved Plan B, subject to such modifications as may be approved by the Commission in the preparation of the final plans.

In giving such approvals the Commission had in mind the future (and not far distant) widening of the Connecticut Avenue bridge. The durability of the materials used in the present structure will then call for serious consideration. The design for the Calvert Street Bridge as approved by the Commission is in harmony with the present Connecticut Avenue Bridge, and will be in harmony with any probable modification thereof.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,
(Signed) Charles Moore,
Chairman.

Hon. Luther H. Reichelderfer,
President, Board of Commissioners
of the District of Columbia,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT A

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
HELD IN WASHINGTON, D. C., OCTOBER 6 AND 7, 1933.

The fourth meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts during the fiscal year 1934, was held in its office in the Interior Department Building on Friday, October 6, and Saturday, October 7, 1933. The following members were present:

Mr. Moore, Chairman,
Mr. Swartwout,
Mr. Clarke,
Mr. Lawrie,
Mr. Howells,
Mr. Savage,
and Mr. H. P. Caemmerer, Executive

Secretary and Administrative Officer.

There was also present Mr. William Mitchell Kendall, representing the firm of McKim, Mead and White, architects of the Arlington Memorial Bridge. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a. m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The Minutes of the Meetings, held July 28, and September 6, 1933, were approved.

2. MINUTE ON THE DEATH OF MR. MAURAN: The Commission expressed deep regret in the passing of their esteemed friend and fellow member, Mr. John Lawrence Mauran, on September 23, 1933. Mr. Howells was requested to prepare a resolution, which was as follows:

Washington, D. C.,
October 7, 1933.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS at their meeting held on October 6, 1933, adopted the following minute, prepared by Mr. John Mead Howells, a fellow student of Mr. Mauran at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology:

JOHN LAWRENCE MAURAN

Appointed by President Hoover to the COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS, he was elected Vice Chairman of the Commission by his fellow members. He died at his summer home at Dublin, New Hampshire, on September 23, 1933.

Trained at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he graduated in 1889, he entered at once into the practice of his chosen profession, whose interests and high standards he never forgot. Today the profession of Architecture owes him a debt of gratitude and appreciation for the high example he always set.

It would be difficult to find a career richer than his, not only in its achievements in architectural creation, but also in its service to activities of his own city, its generous helpfulness far afield, and finally its service on the Council of National Defense during the World War.

His presidency of many groups of various kinds shows the personal respect and affection in which he was held.

Mr. Mauran was beloved by his associates on the Commission of Fine Arts. His kindly spirit, his deep interests and his sound judgment on matters presented to the Commission for consideration, was ever deeply appreciated by his associates. We feel profoundly the loss of this distinguished member of the Commission.

A copy of the resolution was sent to Mrs. Lauran. (Exhibit A)

3. DELICATION OF THE SAMUEL GOMPERS MEMORIAL: The Secretary stated that the Samuel Gompers Memorial was to be dedicated on October 7, 1933, at 10:30 a. m. and that the Commission had been invited to attend. The President of the United States was to make the principal address.

The memorial represents Samuel Gompers seated in a chair with full-sized allegorical figures representing Labor in the background. The whole monument is cast in bronze, resting on a stone plinth, and is located at the intersection of Massachusetts Avenue and 11th Street. Robert I. Aitken is the sculptor. It has cost the American Federation of Labor \$132,000. The memorial is to have a suitable landscape setting.

4. SCULPTURE FOR DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE BUILDING: The Secretary presented photographs received from Mr. Jennewein showing fig leaves on the male figures of his pediment group. Mr. Lawrie said that in his opinion the fig leaves are not large enough and that Mr. Jennewein should be requested to

enlarge them and submit new photographs to the Commission. The members of the Commission concurred in this. (Exhibit B)

5. NAVAL TESTING BASIN: By letter of September 13, 1933, Honorable H. L. Roosevelt, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, requested the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts as to plans for a proposed ship model testing basin, as follows:

13 September 1933.

Sirs:

The Bureau of Yards and Docks of the Navy Department is preparing the plans for the proposed construction of a ship model testing basin, together with the necessary shops, office building, power plant and other facilities. The site tentatively selected for this installation is located a short distance west of Cabin John Bridge and south of the Conduit Road. A small scale model of the entire plant has been constructed and a contour map of the site and floor plans of the basin and buildings have been prepared.

Before the Bureau proceeds with the detailed drawings for this project it is desired to present it for the consideration of your Commission for approval. It is therefore desired that you fix a date for this presentation. Should the Commission desire to visit the site the Chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks will designate an officer to accompany the Commission and to furnish it with all detailed information which it may desire. Since the Bureau wishes to proceed with its detailed plans as early as possible, I would appreciate it if your Commission can give this matter early consideration.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) H. L. Roosevelt,
Acting.

Commission of Fine Arts,
Interior Department Building,
Washington, D. C.

Also in a letter of the same date Admiral L. L. Parsons, Chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks of the Navy Department, advised the Commission that it is proposed to build the testing basin adjacent to the George

Washington Memorial Parkway about 300 feet west of Cabin John Bridge and that this location has been approved by the National Capital Park and Planning Commission. A model of the project was submitted to the Commission and was inspected by the members. The following representatives of the Navy Department were present during the discussion: Rear Admiral Emory S. Land, Chief of Bureau of Construction and Repair; Captain W. H. Allen, Bureau of Yards and Docks, U. S. N.; Captain H. Williams, Construction Corps, U. S. N.; Lieut. Commander Diehl, representing the aeronautics branch of the Navy; Lieut. Commander B. Moreell, Bureau of Yards and Docks, U. S. N.; and Mr. William Partridge, consulting architect.

Admiral Land explained the purpose of the project, saying that there are but two establishments in the United States equipped for this work, one at the University of Michigan and the other the U. S. Experimental Model Basin at Washington. As the Michigan Tank is limited in size, towing speed, equipment and personnel, by far the greater part of the model testing in this country falls on the Washington Tank. It alone, in this country, can conduct tests on propellers and self propelled models. The total capacity of facilities in the United States for model studies of ship propulsion has not been increased in 25 years.

There are at least 18 active model basin establishments abroad, all working on improvements and new designs for foreign shipping interests and navies. The two establishments in this country are entirely unable to keep pace in normal times with the progressive developments necessary to compete with this volume of foreign work: unless this situation can be improved, ship design in this country will lag hopelessly behind. Every foreign ship-building nation has either built or is building one more or several new

basins or has rebuilt an old one since the World War. Germany has three new basins at Hamburg, and the Berlin basin has been rebuilt. The Paris tank is being brought up to date. In Italy the old basin at Spezia has been modernized and a new one built at Rome. In England a new admiralty basin is underway at Hasler, and the new high speed tank for the Froude basin at Teddington was completed in 1932. Holland has a new basin, completed in 1932. Norway, Russia and Japan all have major projects for new installations.

Contrast to this the fact that the Washington Basin on which our navy and shipping must place almost entire dependence began operation in 1900 and has never been rebuilt. Even if an immediate start is made it will require a number of years for our Model Basin work to overcome that handicap.

Admiral Land stated further that the testing basin will be 1,600 feet in length, 20 feet wide and 10 feet deep. It will require six million gallons of water to fill it and to facilitate this a location has been selected for the basin adjacent to the Potomac River and the conduit supplying Washington. Also the site at Cabin John, which is to comprise 51 acres, has been selected to give the building a rock foundation and to have the establishment reasonably near to Washington. The testing basin is to cost \$3,200,000. There will be an administration building 800 feet long with an average width of 150 feet and a height of 30 feet. It will face the George Washington Memorial Parkway.

The ship models to be tested will have a length of 20 feet. The testing is not done only for models of warships but also for ships of the merchant marine, etc. The basin will be available for commercial ship builders when the proper arrangements are made.

The Commission inspected the model of the testing basin with interest and approved it in general. Certain features in matters of detail were called to the attention of Admiral Land and the other officials of the Navy Department, and they will be carried out in further development of the project.

In the afternoon the Commission visited the site near Cabin John Bridge and considered the project in relation to the location. Due to the peculiar shape of the testing basin, which looks like a great elongated cylinder, the Commission urged the importance of having the structure hidden by planting. The Commission were advised that this would be done and that in addition a suitable landscape plan will be provided for the grounds. A report was sent to Rear Admiral A. L. Parsons, Chief of the Bureau of Yards and Docks.

(Exhibit C; see also C-1)

6. LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE REFORMATION: Mr. Irwin S. Porter, Architect, submitted a revised design for the Lutheran Church of the Reformation to be built opposite the Folger Shakespeare Library. Mr. Moore asked Mr. Porter what he had found out from the National Capital Park and Planning Commission as to what could be done to get more room by making use of alley space. Mr. Porter replied that nothing had been accomplished in this respect. There is no alley space available and furthermore Mr. Porter said his building goes back to the alley line. Also Mr. Porter said the congregation for which he is the architect, has advised him that in view of the zoning restrictions as to light and air, which cut down the size of the auditorium, it is necessary to build out to the present building line, which is 55 feet back from the curb on the north side of East Capitol Street.

Attention was called to the new plan for widening East Capitol Street, which provides for a new building line established by the Folger Library

which is 73 feet back from the curb on the south side of East Capitol Street. The new building line specifies 80 feet.

The Commission expressed regret that the congregation could not conform to the new plan but realized the fact that, as Mr. Porter had said, he must build an auditorium to accommodate 650 persons and that the congregation would not give up 2,000 square feet of lot space in the absence of an official approval of the widening of East Capitol Street by Congress.

The architect members of the Commission thereupon gave particular attention to the revised plan, particularly to the facade of the building. The architect members felt it was an improvement over the previous plan submitted by Mr. Porter and on their recommendation, the Commission approved the design.

The Commission advised that when the building is erected and new buildings are constructed adjacent to it, such new structures should be brought into harmony by planting, assuming that the new buildings will conform to the building line established by the Folger Library.

On Saturday morning the matter was brought to the attention of Mr. Olmsted, landscape architect member emeritus of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission. Mr. Olmsted said that he favored the widening of East Capitol Street but more particularly for the purpose of opening the vista down East Capitol Street. He did not interpose serious objection to construction of the Church of the Reformation on the established building line as proposed. A report was sent to Mr. Porter approving the design. (Exhibit D)

7. LANDSCAPE PLAN FOR PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE BUILDING: Under date of October 4, 1933, a letter was received from Assistant Secretary of the Treasury L. W. Robert, submitting a landscape plan for the new Public Health Service Building on Constitution Avenue and 22nd Street. Mr. Louis

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Simon of the office of the Supervising Architect of the Treasury, was present during the discussion.

The plans were brought to the particular attention of Mr. Gilmore D. Clarke, who inspected them. Mr. Clarke stated that some of the plans had previously been sent to him and he had advised that the driveway proposed on the south side of the building should be omitted, thus conforming to the treatment of the frontage of the rest of the buildings along Constitution Avenue. The Commission concurred in this.

The general set of plans was thereupon referred to Mr. Clarke for examination and report.

On October 11, Mr. Clarke made a personal inspection of the grounds in connection with his study of the plans and submitted a report which was sent to Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Robert. (Exhibit E; see also E-1 and E-2)

8. NEW CALVERT STREET BRIDGE: Dr. Paul Cret, architect, and Mr. E. Masters of the firm of Modjeski, Masters and Chase, engineers for the new Calvert Street Bridge, submitted a further study of the accepted design for the bridge. Major Paul A. Hodgson, Assistant Engineer Commissioner, and Captain H. C. Whitehurst, Chief of the Highway Department of the District of Columbia, were also present.

Dr. Cret submitted a study for the plaza treatment of the area between the Taft Bridge and the Calvert Street Bridge. Captain Whitehurst said there is no money available for creating a plaza as proposed by the voluntary study made by Dr. Cret for this location but that Dr. Cret's design was nevertheless very much appreciated. Mr. Kendall said it was a very great opportunity to do something very fine in bringing the two bridge-heads together. The

Commission concurred in this.

Various schemes for routing traffic were discussed and the Commission concluded that the Government should acquire the land needed for the plaza between the Taft Bridge and the Calvert Street Bridge. The Commission favored a plaza with balustrade overlooking the Rock Creek Parkway and a retaining wall. Mr. A. B. Cammerer, Director of National Parks, Buildings and Reservations, said that a few days ago a request was made of the Zoning Commission to zone the plot of ground commercial but that this had been thus far disapproved by the Zoning Commission.

The Commission thereupon inspected the progress studies submitted by Dr. Cret for the bridge and selected design D, showing three arches and contemplating a stone facing. The Commission were well pleased with design D and approved it with the understanding that the bridge would be given a stone facing and with the suggestion that the stone piers be carried to the top of the iron railing. The treatment of the ribs of the arches was considered and the relief as shown in sheet No. 7 was approved by the Commission. A report was sent to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia. (Exhibit F)

9. GATEWAYS FOR FORT HUMPHREYS: Under date of September 13, 1933, designs were received from Colonel Edward F. Schulz, Commandant, for a new entrance for Fort Humphreys, with letter as follows:

September 13, 1933.

Mr. Charles Moore, President
Fine Arts Commission
Interior Department
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Moore:

Referring to the matter of improvement of Fort Humphreys, I am inclosing herewith a set of drawings showing an artistic development of the entrance of Fort Humphreys. These drawings

have been prepared by Mr. Thomas L. Jeffers, under the supervision of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, and at the request of these headquarters and of General Brown, Chief of Engineers.

With the possible exception of the center pier for the present, or until actual gates are needed, I consider the design very suitable, impressive, and appropriate for Fort Humphreys, and I would be glad to have the action of the Fine Arts Commission on the matter as to their approval or any modifications which should be made. Possibly the two small buildings could have a castellated roof effect instead of the design as indicated.

Upon receipt of your action, I will forward these plans to the Chief of Engineers, through the Quartermaster General, for final approval by the War Department.

Major Gilmore D. Clarke, of the Fine Arts Commission, has made a recent visit to this post in connection with landscaping of the layout of roads, barracks, and pond, and I understand he has also seen the drawings of the gate in their early preparation. Please accept my thanks for his services both in connection with review on the gate and particularly in the preparation of the other landscape drawings which he has recently submitted and upon which I will further confer with him.

I will be glad to receive the Commission's action on the entrance gate design as early as practicable.

Very sincerely,
(Signed) Edward H. Schulz,
Colonel, Corps of Engineers,
Commandant.

The designs were brought to the attention of Mr. Swartwout and Mr. Howells, who considered them with Colonel Schulz. Upon the recommendation of Mr. Swartwout and Mr. Howells, the Commission approved Plan 1, with the suggestion that the central pier be omitted.

Colonel Schulz stated that in August Major Clarke had advised as to the landscape treatment of the grounds. Colonel Schulz invited the Commission to visit Fort Humphreys at the next meeting of the Commission to inspect the progress of the work. A report was sent to Colonel Schulz. (Exhibit G)

10. GENERAL ARTEMUS WARD STATUE: Mr. Moore stated that there has been one delay after another in regard to the location of the General Artemus Ward Statue. The Commission have been waiting five years and Judge Ward, who suggested the monument, is getting old--he is some 80 years now. Mr. Charles C. Glover of the Riggs National Bank does not wish to donate his land. The American University will give their land needed for the circle but the rest cannot be paid for as the Bureau of the Budget will not allow the necessary funds.

Mr. A. B. Cammerer, Director of National Parks, Buildings and Reservations, said he would study the situation to see if the statue can be located at Massachusetts and Nebraska Avenues by using available parking space. The Commission visited the site late in the afternoon.

11. PROPOSED HOTEL AT SECOND AND C STREETS, N. E.: Mr. J. A. Smith of 115 C Street, N. E., submitted a sketch of a hotel building which he wishes to build at 2nd and C Streets, N. E., on the square immediately east of the Senate Office Building. Mr. Smith submitted the following letter with his sketch:

October 6, 1933.

Fine Arts Commission,
Interior Building.

Gentlemen:

We propose building an up to date and high class residential and commercial hotel building on the block immediately across First Street between B and C, N. E. from the Senate Office Building.

We are very anxious to have this correspond with the other buildings nearby and we think the front elevation plan submitted to you expresses in its simple beauty and style that will stand the ravages and changes of time an idea, in the main, well worth consideration.

It is pleasing to us to know that in doing this there will be eliminated a very objectionable slum district that is an eyesore and discredit to the locality.

We respectfully submit a sketch of the block showing the alleys in it.

Yours very respectfully,
(Signed) J. A. Smith.

The architect members of the Commission inspected the sketch and informed Mr. Smith, who was present, that it did not resemble a hotel building but rather an office building. Mr. Smith was asked to explain the arrangement of the interior of the building, which he was unable to do to the satisfaction of the architect members of the Commission because he did not have studies at hand to illustrate the plan of the building. Mr. Smith said that no complete drawings of the hotel building have been made but he would be glad to bring to the attention of the Commission some further studies from the architect, Mr. Cohen.

Mr. Smith brought the plans to the Commission office while the Commission was away on an inspection trip so the members did not have an opportunity to see them. Thereupon the Secretary informed Mr. Smith orally that the Commission would give his plans further consideration at any time he wishes to present them.

Mr. Smith stated that his hotel building project involves an expenditure of a million dollars and up to this time the funds for it have not been raised. Mr. Smith seemed to be satisfied with the conference with the Commission and that the Commission interposed no objection to the erection of a hotel building at this location.

12. WIDENING CONSTITUTION AVENUE: Mr. A. B. Camerer, Director of National Parks, Buildings and Reservations, submitted a plan for widening

Constitution Avenue, stating that \$200,000 for this work has been allowed from the Public Works fund. He stated that the plan had been approved by the National Capital Park and Planning Commission and that while the Commission of Fine Arts had recommended an 80-foot width the entire length of Constitution Avenue and it has an 80-foot width west to 17th Street, the funds made available do not permit paving the full 80-foot width at the present time. Mr. T. C. Jeffers presented the following memorandum from the National Capital Park and Planning Commission as to the scheme of paving proposed:

September 29, 1933.

Mr. H. P. Caemmerer,
Secretary, Commission of Fine Arts,
Interior Department Bldg.,
Washington, D. C.

Subject: Constitution Avenue - Virginia Avenue
to Potomac River.

Dear Mr. Caemmerer:

Attached hereto is a blue print of our plan for the widening of Constitution Avenue, as requested by you in our telephone conversation several days ago.

The proposed widths of the new street, as finally adopted by the National Capital Park and Planning Commission at its meeting on September 15, are shown on the print by yellow line. The action of the Commission was as follows:

"MOTION unanimously carried that the Commission adheres to the Olmsted recommendation for the 64-foot width, as previously recommended, from 23rd Street to the river, measuring the 64 feet from the north curb of the 72-foot roadway as planned east of 23rd Street."

These widths were adopted with the thought that at some future time the section east of 23rd Street will be widened 8 feet on the north side, which will make this section of the Avenue the same width and on the same centerline as the section east of Virginia Avenue. The trees are being planted so as to make this future

widening possible. Due to temporary buildings and the wall of the Academy of Sciences, it is impossible to make the road the full 80 feet in width at this time. West of 23rd Street the Commission has felt that traffic needs and the park-like character of the road necessitate a lesser width. In order to center the pavement upon the axis of the street, 64 feet is the natural width to adopt. This will then make the north curb, so far as the present project is concerned, continuous east and west of 23rd Street, and the south curb offset 8 feet north in the section west of 23rd Street. The Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway, which is the terminus of Constitution Avenue, is 40 feet in width.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) T. C. Jeffers,
Landscape Architect.

It was noted that it is proposed to pave part of 22nd and 23rd Streets to a point adjacent to the Pharmaceutical Association Building. The question was raised by the Pharmacists whether a sidewalk should not be built on 22nd and 23rd Streets adjacent to the new street paving. Major Clarke discussed this with Mr. Nagle, Engineer of the Office of National Parks, Buildings and Reservations, and with Mr. Shoemate, representing Fuller & Co., the builders. Mr. Clarke advised that the grounds should simply be graded for the present and that no sidewalk should be built at the point in question since it can not be built all the way up 22nd and 23rd Streets to New York Avenue.

13. PLAN FOR THE MALL: Mr. A. B. Connerer, Director of National Parks, Buildings and Reservations, submitted a scheme of construction proposed for the Mall, which it is planned to carry out in view of the allowance of \$600,000 that has been made available from the Public Works fund. The Commission inspected the scheme and regarded it satisfactory.

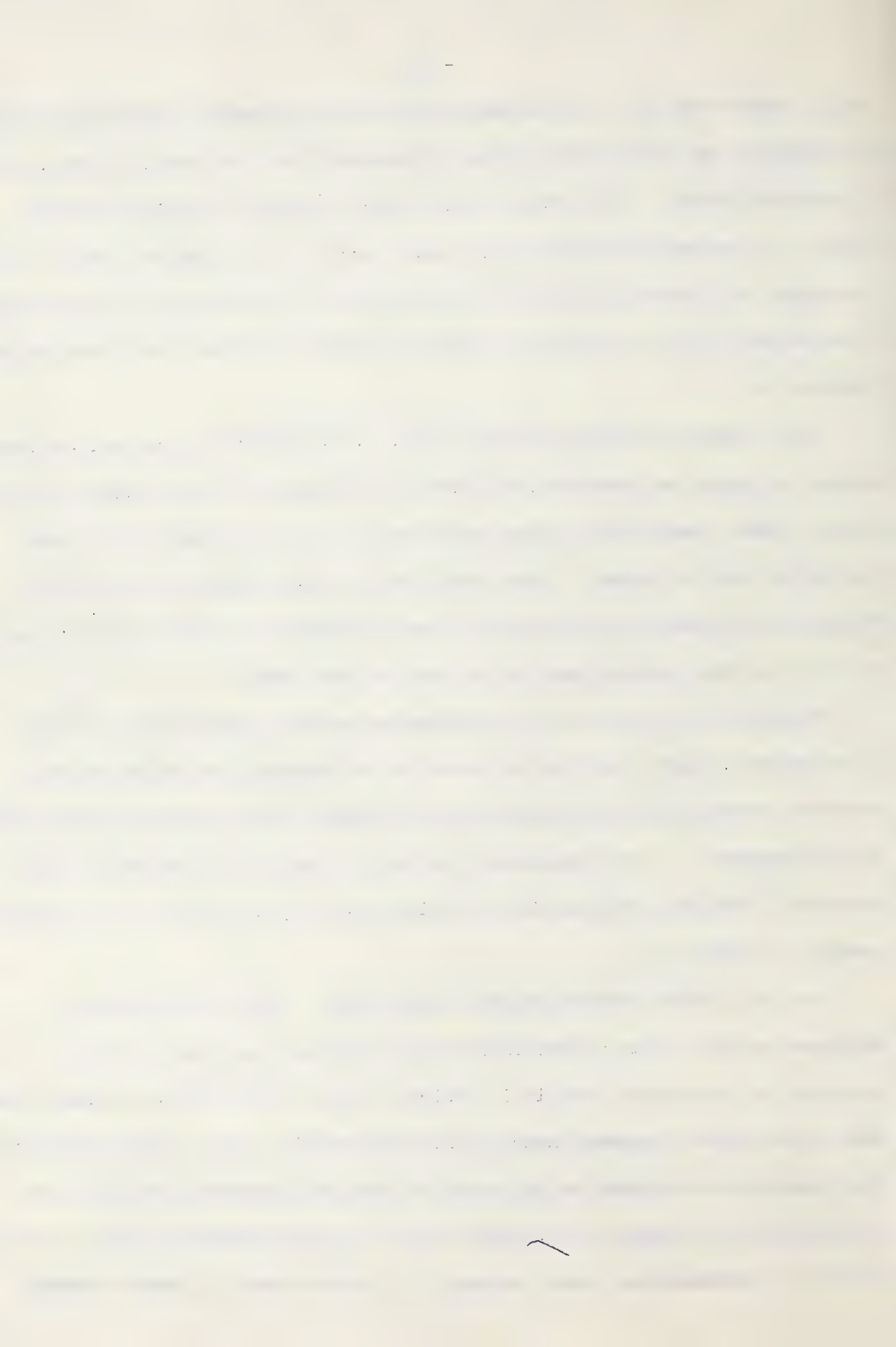
On Saturday morning the Commission were in conference with Mr. F. L. Olmsted on the question of design for Union Square. A satisfactory agreement was reached with Mr. Olmsted on this subject and it was understood he

would confer with Mr. W. E. Parsons of the firm of Bennett, Parsons and Frost, who designed the Union Station Plaza development and the Botanic Garden south of Maryland Avenue. Mr. Olmsted will prepare a design for Union Square to bring it in proper relation with the west terrace of the Capitol, and it will be brought to the attention of the Commission of Fine Arts at a future meeting. A report was sent to the Office of National Parks, Buildings and Reservations. (Exhibit H)

14. BRIDGES IN ROCK CREEK PARK: Mr. A. B. Cammerer, Director, National Parks, Buildings and Reservations, submitted sketches for new bridges to be built in Rock Creek Park to take the place of those destroyed in the storm the latter part of August. There are eight of these bridges to be built. They will be higher than those heretofore constructed in Rock Creek Park so as to avoid being washed away by the rise of Rock Creek.

The architect members of the Commission and Mr. Clarke inspected the sketches and thought the type indicated by the sketches was satisfactory, with the exception that two rails were considered better than the three shown in the sketches. It was understood they will be built of stone or of light concrete. Complete drawings for the bridges are to be submitted at a future meeting. (Exhibit I)

15. ARLINGTON MEMORIAL BRIDGE STORAGE ROOM: Mr. John L. Nogle, Engineer for the office of National Parks, Buildings and Reservations, informed the Commission that it is desired to make use of the space under the Rock Creek Parkway approach near the Lincoln Memorial for a large storage room. The Commission interposed no objection to this and thereupon considered the character of the opening. Mr. Nogle said it is not proposed to build a doorway but an entrance that would scarcely be visible from the grounds nearby.



The question of approach was considered and the Commission disapproved the use of an old existing road to the entrance and advised that a new road should be constructed from the proposed entrance to the roadway running under the parkway viaduct. (Exhibit J)

16. SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK BUILDINGS: Mr. A. B. Cammerer, Director of National Parks, Buildings and Reservations, submitted a set of plans for proposed buildings for Shenandoah National Park. The Commission referred them to Major Clarke for study.

17. AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT BRIDGES: A copy of a letter was received from the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, addressed to them by Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Robert, advising that they propose to go ahead with the original scheme for building two piers and three arches for the bridges over E Street South to connect the Agriculture Department buildings.

The Secretary brought the matter to the attention of members of the Commission on Saturday morning, who conferred with Mr. Olmsted about the matter personally. The Commission were of the opinion that the original scheme offered a more satisfactory design than the one-arched bridge (80-foot span), which was designed later with a view to omitting one or more piers in the middle, according to the wishes of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission. It was the opinion of Mr. Moore that E Street South will never be a heavy traffic street. Also the Commission felt that the question of piers in the street was one for adjustment with the Treasury Department and the National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

18. SIGN, WASHINGTON POST BUILDING: A design was received from the Building Inspector for a new sign for the Washington Post Building, to

measure 40 by 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet. The erection of the sign was particularly requested by Mr. Eugene Myer, President of the Washington Post Company, as indicated in letters addressed to the Commissioners of the District of Columbia.

(Exhibit K)

The Commission inspected the Washington Post Building and saw two carved title inscriptions "The Washington Post"--one over the doorway and one near the top of the building. The Commission felt that if these were lighted they should be sufficient as signs for the building. If Mr. Myer wanted an electric sign, it should not exceed 25 square feet in area and should be placed over one of the existing title inscriptions on the building.

Thereupon Mr. Moore took up the matter personally with Mr. Myer and Mr. Moore reported that the question of erecting the new sign will be held in abeyance for the present. (Exhibit K-1)

19. MUNICIPAL CENTER--COURTS BUILDING: The Commissioners of the District of Columbia having sent to the Commission of Fine Arts a set of plans for the new Courts building to be erected on the east side of John Marshall Place as the first unit of the Municipal Center, the Commission took the matter under consideration and later visited the existing Police Court Building. The deplorable conditions existing there were in general known to the Commission but were re-emphasized in correspondence received from Hon. Gus. A. Schuldt, presiding judge of the Police Court. (Exhibit L). It is proposed to secure an allotment of four and one-half million dollars from the Public Works fund to begin construction of the Police Court building. The plans provide for housing the Police Court, the Municipal Court, the Traffic Court, the Juvenile Court, the Recorder of Deeds, the Registrar of Wills and related offices.

The plans for the Municipal Center were prepared by the late Mr. A. L. Harris, Municipal Architect, Mr. Nathan C. Wyeth, Professor F. V. Murphy, and Mr. Edward W. Dunn, associate architects. These plans were approved by the Commission of Fine Arts. The buildings are designed in the classical order and will be limestone buildings to conform to the Federal buildings on the south side of Pennsylvania Avenue.

20. INTERNES' RESIDENCE, FREEDMEN'S HOSPITAL: Under date of October 4, 1933. Mr. James Berrall, architect, submitted plans for an internes' residence to be built as one of the Freedmen's Hospital group, with letter, as follows:

The Commission of Fine Arts
Interior Department Building
Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

By direction of the Surgeon in Chief, Freedmen's Hospital, I submit herewith for your approval, the plans and elevations for a proposed Internes' Residence, at Sixth and College Streets, N. W., Washington, D. C.

The exterior elevations conform to the design and texture of the older buildings adjacent, constructed in 1907, 1909, 1910 and 1932.

The materials of construction are selected common brick facing, all stretcher courses, common brick backing. Ornamental terra-cotta water-table, sills, keys, cornice, coping and entrance door trim.

Floor and column construction, reinforced concrete.

Roof construction, steel, with gypsum slab and tin roof on wood battens.

Partitions, hollow tile and gypsum.

Door bucks, window sash and frames, pressed steel. Entrance door and frames, wood. Interior doors, wood.

Walls and ceilings, plastered and painted.

Floor finish, cement base for asphalt tile and linoleum floor covering. Terrazzo in bath and toilet rooms.

Respectfully,
(Signed) James Berrall,
Supervisor of Construction.

Upon the recommendation of Mr. Howells, the Commission approved the plans with the suggestion that the doorway be simplified and that a break in the cornice on the east side of the building be omitted. A report was sent to the Secretary of the Interior. (Exhibit M)

21. FREER GALLERY OF ART PURCHASES: The Commission made a visit to the Freer Gallery to inspect an Arabic glass bowl (14th Century) submitted by Mr. John Lodge, Curator, for purchase. This was approved by the Commission. Also the Commission approved the purchase of 12 Chinese bronze ceremonial weapons.

22. SCULPTURE FOR ARLINGTON MEMORIAL BRIDGE: The Secretary submitted a letter received from Mr. Leo Friedlander, advising that his models for the sculpture for the Arlington Memorial Bridge are ready for inspection by the Commission.

The Commission decided to visit the studio of Mr. Friedlander at the earliest opportunity.

23. LOCATION OF BUST OF GOETHE: The Chairman received the following letter from Mr. A. E. Connerer, Director of National Parks, Buildings and Reservations, requesting advice as to the placement of statuary in Meridian Hill Park in connection with which the location of the bust of Goethe was taken into consideration:

September 26, 1933.

Mr. Charles Moore. Chairman, - 20 -
Commission of Fine Arts,
Interior Building,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Moore:

My attention has been called through reference to the files of the Commission's action of July 28th on the unacceptability of the bust of Goethe as a work of art and for location in Meridian Hill Park. I note the alternative of the Commission to have it placed in one of the niches of the hedge and treated as a garden ornament or in the National Museum.

I have not yet had an opportunity to check the situation with reference to the Meridian Hill Park sculptural emplacements. But from what little I know about it, which is emphasized by your communication, the park is likely to become the objective for all sorts of applications for emplacements for alleged works of art, if some policy regarding their acceptability from an art standpoint is not adopted. Perhaps that has been done. I cannot locate any reference to it, however. It seems to me that with the assistance of your Commission, we could draw up an acceptable standard based on historical or other reasons that might be used as a guide in encouraging or discouraging possible applicants.

For instance, I am led to assume by the correspondence, perhaps incorrectly, that had a bust of Goethe to scale and a real work of art been submitted it would have passed the Commission without any objection. Should a bust of Gomers and of Shakespeare and of George Washington be permitted to occupy other niches if acceptable from an artistic standpoint. Or if Goethe had been permitted, should we accept offers of a bust of Ibsen, of Shakespeare, or Tennyson or of Dante to carry out the thought of honoring men of literature, thereby excluding those in the drama, music, fine arts, etc. Certainly in any case, it would be well to have any such sculptural recognition meet specifications prepared in advance and strictly adhered to. You can readily see what a serious problem we are confronting. I would appreciate having the views of your Commission in regard to this matter.

Yours sincerely,
(Signed) Arno B. Cammerer,
Director.

The Commission decided that the bust of Goethe, heretofore disapproved for location in Meridian Hill Park, had best be placed in the National Museum. As for placing other statuary in Meridian Hill Park, the Commission felt that

there is about enough statuary there although at some future time it might be possible to place a few more sculptural groups in niches of the hedges in the park. The Commission strongly felt that the existing statuary in the park needs more planting. (Exhibit N)

24. INSPECTION OF THE AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION BUILDING:

Dr. E. F. Kelly having reported that the American Pharmaceutical Association Building at Constitution Avenue and 22nd Street is about ready for occupancy, the Commission visited the building late on Friday afternoon, October 6. The Commission were well pleased with the building. It was designed by John Russell Pope, architect, and is built of Vermont marble and thus is one of the group of marble buildings along Constitution Avenue that form a frame for the Lincoln Memorial. The Commission noted the work under way to carry out the landscape plan. A letter of congratulation was sent to Dr. Kelly. (Exhibit O)

25. TREES FOR THE MALL: Some time ago, the Commission, after considerable discussion with the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, approved the planting of the Mall with 8 rows of American Elms. This approval was made before the serious effect of the Dutch Elm Disease was brought to the attention of the Commission. The disease has not been found to affect any of the elms in the vicinity of Washington, but it is understood that the disease might very likely appear in the Washington region with resulting serious damage to the existing elms. A special division of the Department of Agriculture has been set up under the direction of Dr. Beatty to get the Dutch Elm Disease under control, and if possible, to eliminate it. The success of these efforts will not be known for a year or 18 months, and it is suggested that no further elms be planted on the Mall until it is definitely

known whether or not this Dutch Elm Disease can be controlled and ultimately eradicated.

If there is danger that the elms in this country will be attacked by this disease, then it would seem undesirable to plant additional elms in Washington.

The question of what tree might be substituted for the elm was discussed, and either red or white oaks were thought to be the most desirable trees if it appears later that it is not practicable to plant elms. At the present at least, both the white and red oak are immune from serious insect pests and plant diseases. Mr. Clarke agreed to communicate with Mr. Frederick Law Olmsted and obtain his opinion in this matter. See Mr. Olmsted's reply. (Exhibit P)

26. MEDAL FOR THE UNITED STATES CAVALRY ASSOCIATION: Under date of October 6, 1933, the following letter was received from Major William M. Blunt, United States Cavalry, requesting the advice of the Commission of Fine Arts in the matter of securing a medal for the United States Cavalry Association:

Mr. Charles Moore
Commission of Fine Arts
3311 Interior Building
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

The United States Cavalry Association has under consideration offering a medal as a prize for a horse show class to be given at a number of horse shows throughout the country, with a view to raising funds to finance the participation of American horse show teams in International events.

The Association would like to present a medal similar to that awarded by the Horse Association of America for the best playing polo pony in each club, with which you are no doubt familiar. In place of the polo player shown on this medal it is desired to have,

in relief, an American army officer riding a horse over a jump. As this is basically an effort to raise funds, it is desired to get the medal struck off as inexpensively as possible, consistent with turning out a reasonably good piece of work.

I am, therefore, writing to ask what advice you can give me in this connection. One of the first steps would seem to be arranging for the model before making a contract for any part of this work. I must present for approval the total cost of turning out 50 such medals, which is my estimate of the maximum number that would be required annually.

I shall appreciate any information or advice you may be able to give me on this subject, particularly in connection with obtaining a sculptured model from which to have dies cut.

Assuring you of my appreciation of any assistance that you may be able to give me, I am

Very sincerely yours,
(Signed) Wilfrid M. Blunt
Major, Cavalry

The matter was brought to the particular attention of Mr. Lawrie, who recommended Mr. F. G. R. Rotz, of Englewood, N. J., as the medalist to produce the medal. Mr. Lawrie gave the approximate cost of production of the medal. A report was sent to Major Blunt. (Exhibit Q)

The Commission adjourned on Saturday, October 7, at 1:00 p. m. It was decided to meet in New York City within 10 days and to meet in Washington on Friday, November 17.

C O P Y

November 1, 1933.

Dear Mrs. Mauran:

I have the honor to send to you herewith the Minute adopted by the Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on October 6, 1933, as an expression of their deep sympathy on the death of your husband, Mr. John Lawrence Mauran.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) H. P. Caemmerer,
Secretary.

Mrs. John L. Mauran,
Dublin, New Hampshire.

EXHIBIT A

C O P Y

Washington, D. C.,
October 7, 1933.

THE COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS at their meeting held on October 6, 1933, adopted the following minute, prepared by Mr. John Mead Howells, a fellow student of Mr. Mauran at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology:

JOHN LAWRENCE MAURAN

Appointed by President Hoover to the COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS, he was elected Vice Chairman of the Commission by his fellow members. He died at his summer home at Dublin, New Hampshire, on September 23, 1933.

Trained at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he graduated in 1889, he entered at once into the practice of his chosen profession, whose interests and high standards he never forgot. Today the profession of Architecture owes him a debt of gratitude and appreciation for the high example he always set.

It would be difficult to find a career richer than his, not only in its achievements in architectural creation, but also in its service to activities of his own city, its generous helpfulness far afield, and finally its service on the Council of National Defense during the World War.

His presidency of many groups of various kinds shows the personal respect and affection in which he was held.

Mr. Mauran was beloved by his associates on the Commission of Fine Arts. His kindly spirit, his deep interests and his sound judgment on matters presented to the Commission for consideration, was ever deeply appreciated by his associates. We feel profoundly the loss of this distinguished member of the Commission.

We direct that this minute be placed on the records of the Commission of Fine Arts, and that a copy thereof be sent to his family, as an expression of our deep sympathy.

Egerton Swartwout,
Gilmore D. Clarke,
Lee Lawrie,
John M. Howells,
Eugene Savage,
Charles Moore.

H. P. Caemmerer,
Secretary.

Members of the Commission of
Fine Arts

C O P Y

October 9, 1933.

Dear Mr. Jennewein:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on October 6, 1933, gave consideration to your model for the sculpture of the Department of Justice building. The Commission are of the opinion that the fig leaves are not quite large enough. They request that you send a photograph of a revised model. Otherwise the model is satisfactory.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mr. C. P. Jennewein,
538 Van Nest Avenue,
Bronx, New York.

EXHIBIT B

C O P Y

October 7, 1933.

Dear Admiral Parsons:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on October 6, 1933, were pleased to consider with Admiral Land and his associates of the Navy Department a model and sketches for the proposed Naval Testing Basin to be built near Cabin John Bridge.

The Commission approved the model in general. It is understood that further studies will be made in matters of detail.

Trees should be planted along the testing basin so as to avoid what might possibly be an unsightly appearance of the roof of the basin as seen from Conduit Road. The Commission felt this of real importance on inspection of the site during the afternoon in company with Captain Allen, Lieut. Commander Morrell and other officials of the Navy Department. It is understood that a landscape plan for the grounds will be prepared and submitted to the Commission of Fine Arts later.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,
(Signed) Charles Moore,
Chairman.

Rear Admiral A. L. Parsons,
Chief of Bureau of Yards and Docks,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT C

C O P Y

NAVY DEPARTMENT
Bureau of Yards and Docks
Washington, D. C.

October 10, 1933.

Subject: Model Testing Basin.

Dear Mr. Moore;

Your letter of October 7th, which contains the approval of the Commission of Fine Arts for the preliminary plans of the proposed Ship Model Testing Basin to be located at Cabin John, Maryland, has been received.

In accordance with the suggestions of the Commission we are proceeding with studies of the details of the project, incorporating the changes desired by the Commission. We will prepare, also, a landscape plan for the grounds, which will provide for the planting of trees along the test basin to avoid an unsightly appearance of the plant as seen from Conduit Road. This landscape plan will be presented for the consideration of the Commission at an early date. In preparing the estimate for this project funds will be allocated for the landscape work.

I desire to express my appreciation of the valuable assistance which has been given us in connection with this project by your Commission. As this establishment will be unique in character and will attract the attention of those engaged in naval architecture, marine engineering and aeronautics, as well as of scientific investigators, it is our desire to erect buildings which will be a credit to the National Capital as well as to the Navy. I am sure that with the cooperation of your Commission we will be able to attain this result.

Very truly yours,
(Signed) A. L. Parsons,
Chief of Bureau.

Mr. Charles Moore, Chairman,
Commission of Fine Arts,
Interior Department Building,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT C-1

C O P Y

October 10, 1933.

Dear Mr. Porter:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on October 6, 1933, were pleased to consider the revised design for the new Lutheran Church of the Reformation that you propose to build opposite the new Folger Shakespeare Library.

The Commission took note of your statement that after consultation with representatives of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, you found it impossible to get additional room by taking in part of the alley and that the building as now designed goes directly to the alley. Also the Commission understand that the congregation expects you to design an auditorium that will accommodate 650 persons and that to do this it will be impossible for you to construct the facade back 73 feet from the curb to conform to the location of the Folger Library on the south side of East Capitol Street and, therefore, the congregation has requested you to place the facade 55 feet back from the curb on the north side of East Capitol Street at the present building line.

In the opinion of this Commission your drawings show that you will produce a very imposing edifice--one well fitted to stand with the other buildings in that area. The Commission approve the design as submitted.

As for the location of the building on the lot, while the Commission regret the impossibility of conforming to the lines involved in the proposed widening of East Capitol Street, they recognize the rights of the church organization and accept the situation. It is hoped that by careful planting, the line you have adopted can be made to produce satisfactory, if not ideal results.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) Charles Moore,
Chairman.

Mr. Irwin S. Porter,
Porter and Lockie,
Dupont Circle,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT D

C O P Y

October 13, 1933.

Dear Mr. Robert:

The landscape plans for the Public Health Service Building at Constitution Avenue and 19th Street, which you submitted with your letter of October 4, 1933, received the attention of the Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on October 6, 1933. The plans were brought to the particular attention of Mr. Gilmore D. Clarke, landscape architect member of the Commission. After study of the plans and personal inspection of the grounds, Mr. Clarke reported as follows:

"I have reviewed the planting plan prepared by Messrs. Wheelwright and Stevenson, landscape architects, and approve it subject to the preparation of a grading plan, which should indicate the manner in which the lawn areas between the terrace and Constitution Avenue are to be graded. I realize that these areas are more or less flat but it is nevertheless important that they be carefully graded in accordance with a plan previously worked out by the landscape architects.

"If the terrace wall is not built immediately or before the work of planting is accomplished, then a slope just inside the wall location may be made so that the planting outside the terrace wall may not be disturbed at such time as the wall is built. I wish to compliment the designers, Messrs. Wheelwright and Stevenson, upon preparing a planting scheme which is restrained, simple and yet dignified."

The Commission of Fine Arts concur in the report and recommendations of Mr. Clarke.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Respectfully yours,
(Signed) Charles Moore,
Chairman.

Hon. L. W. Robert, Jr.,
Assistant Secretary of the Treasury,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT E



PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE BLDG.
PW:AD

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON

October 19, 1933.

Chairman,
The Commission of Fine Arts,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Acknowledgment is made of your letter of October 13 in regard to the landscape architecture of the grounds surrounding the new Administration building of the Public Health Service, this city.

During the discussion in regard to this matter which was held at the recent meeting of the Commission, the question was raised as to whether there should or should not properly be a driveway entrance within the grounds surrounding the new building. The Public Health Service is very anxious that a driveway either from Constitution Avenue or from 19th or 20th Streets shall be arranged in order that vehicles might approach closer to the steps to the building.

This Department would be pleased to have a statement from the Commission as to whether in its opinion there will be any objections to installing a driveway such as that desired by the Public Health Service.

Direction of the Secretary

Respectfully,

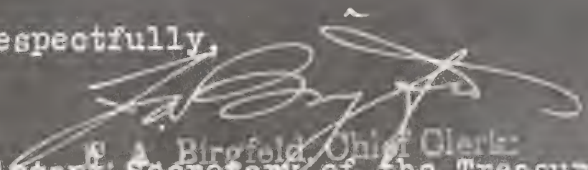

E. A. Birgefeld, Chief Clerk:
Assistant Secretary of the Treasury.

EXHIBIT E-1

C O P Y

October 23, 1933.

Dear Sir:

Your letter of October 19, in regard to the landscape plans for the new administration building of the Public Health Service, has been received.

As to the driveway proposed on the south side of the Public Health Service Building, the Director of National Parks, Buildings and Reservations, requested the advice of the landscape architect member of the Commission of Fine Arts, Mr. Gilmore D. Clarke, as to this project several weeks ago. Mr. Clarke advised that under no circumstances should a driveway in front of the building be constructed. Such a driveway would interfere with the harmonious landscape treatment of the grounds planned for all the monumental buildings erected on Constitution Avenue west of 17th Street. This fact was reported to Mr. de Sibour, the architect.

The Commission at the meeting on October 6, supported unanimously the decision of Mr. Clarke. The Commission feel that ample access to the building can be had by a service driveway on the north side of the building.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mr. F. A. Birgfeld, Chief Clerk,
Treasury Department,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT E-2

C O P Y

October 9, 1933.

Dear Dr. Reichelderfer:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on October 6, 1933, considered further studies submitted by Dr. Paul Cret, Architect, and Modjeski, Masters and Chase, Engineers, for the new Calvert Street Bridge.

The Commission approved Plan D with the understanding that the bridge will be given a stone facing and that the stone of the piers will be carried to the top of the iron railing. As to the treatment of the ribs of the arches, the relief as shown in sheet No. 7 was approved by the Commission.

The Commission considered a plan submitted by Dr. Cret for the treatment of the bridgehead, which showed a connection between the Calvert Street Bridge and the William H. Taft Bridge by a plaza and a retaining wall and balustrade at the rim of the Rock Creek Parkway. The Commission understand from Major Paul A. Hodgson and Captain H. C. Whitehurst that at this time no funds are available for the creation of such a connection. However, the Commission is of the opinion that in order to give a sense of unity to these adjacent bridges, a plan for future development is imperative, so that such harmony shall be obtained ultimately. The Commission regard this combined project an opportunity to add a feature of beauty and utility to the District of Columbia; the lack of such a study would indicate a lack of appreciation of a manifest need. The discussion of this general subject and of the plan submitted developed the need of further study in order to obtain the desired object.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Dr. Luther H. Reichelderfer,
President, Board of Commissioners
of the District of Columbia,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT F

C O P Y

October 9, 1933.

Dear Colonel Schulz:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on October 6, 1933, considered the designs you submitted for the new entrance to Fort Humphreys. Upon the recommendation of the architect members of the Commission, Mr. Swartwout and Mr. Howells, the Commission approved Plan 1, with the suggestion that the pier shown in the center of the driveway be omitted.

The Commission also discussed with you the general plan of development proposed for Fort Humphreys, the landscape features of which have had the attention of Major Gilmore D. Clarke, the landscape architect member of the Commission.

The Commission will have pleasure in visiting Fort Humphreys some time in the near future to study the situation on the ground.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Colonel Edward H. Schulz,
Commandant,
Fort Humphreys, Virginia.

EXHIBIT G

C O P Y

October 9, 1933.

Dear Mr. Cammerer:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on October 6, 1933, were pleased to inspect the plan you submitted, indicating a proposed scheme of development of the Mall between the Capitol and the Washington Monument, which has been made possible by the \$600,000 allotment from the public works fund. The Commission understand that this plan has the approval of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, and the Commission of Fine Arts concur in it.

As for a plan to develop Union Square, the Commission were in conference with Mr. Frederick Law Olmsted as to this project and it is understood he will make a careful study of a plan for Union Square so as to bring it in proper relation with the west terrace of the United States Capitol. In this work Mr. Olmsted will confer with Mr. W. L. Parsons of Bennett, Parsons and Frost, which firm designed the landscape features of Union Station Plaza and also the new Botanical Garden development on the south side of Maryland Avenue.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mr. Arno B. Cammerer,
Director, National Parks,
Buildings and Reservations,
Interior Department,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT H

C O P Y

October 9, 1933.

Dear Mr. Cammerer:

At the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts on October 8, 1933, the Commission considered sketches submitted by your office for bridges to be built in Rock Creek Park. The type of bridge as shown by the sketches submitted is satisfactory to the Commission of Fine Arts.

It is understood drawings for these bridges will be submitted to the Commission of Fine Arts at a later meeting.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mr. Arno B. Cammerer, Director,
National Parks, Buildings and
Reservations,
Interior Department,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT I

C O P Y

October 11, 1933.

Dear Mr. Cammerer:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on October 6, 1933, gave consideration to the suggestion made to create a storage room under the Rock Creek Parkway approach near the Lincoln Memorial Plaza.

The Commission approved the request. It is understood that no doorway as such will be designed for the entrance. The Commission suggest that the entrance to the storage area should be a driveway with a pleasing curved line to connect with the driveway which passes under the Rock Creek Parkway.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mr. Arno B. Cammerer, Director,
National Parks, Buildings and
Reservations,
Interior Department,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT J

THE WASHINGTON POST

Washington, D. C.

EUGENE MEYER, PRESIDENT & PUBLISHER

September 26, 1933.

Hon. Luther H. Reichelderfer,
President, Board of Commissioners
of the District of Columbia,
District Building,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Reichelderfer:

As you may know, on August 29th, we made application for a permit to erect a "Flexlume" electrical display sign in front of The Washington Post Building located at 1337-41 "E" Street, N. W. Under date of September 13th we received a communication from Mr. J. William Downing, Acting Inspector of Buildings, with which we transmitted a copy of a communication from Mr. H. P. Caemmerer, Secretary of The Commission of Fine Arts, to the Inspector of Buildings, requesting a photograph of The Washington Post Building, with the new sign in scale indicated thereon, and further information regarding the sign.

We are sending you herewith a print of the architect's original sketch of The Washington Post Building, which shows the proposed sign in place thereon. The specifications for this sign are as follows:

The display is horizontal	-	single faced
Material:	20 oz. copper, medium statuary bronze finish	
Letters and size:	<u>The Washington Post</u>	25"-42"-13" (onlex)
Border trim:	Raised moulding	3" cove.
Dimensions:	40' x 3'6".	

Onlex letters are the original Flexlume raised glass, which

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are illuminated from lights located behind the glass letters, and no lamps are visible from the exterior of the sign. Many Flexlume signs have been erected in Washington and a glance at the accompanying print will show clearly, we believe, that the sign we propose to erect will be both dignified and artistic. We are advised that it meets all District requirements under the sign law.

In the circumstances, and in view of the many signs already in place on buildings located on Pennsylvania Avenue, or facing the Avenue, some of which, at least, are considerably larger than the dimensions referred to in the letter from The Commission of Fine Arts, it is difficult for us to understand why there should be any question about the sign we propose to erect.

We renew our request for the issuance of a permit and sincerely hope that the District Commissioners will take prompt and favorable action thereon so that the sign may be erected without further delay.

Very truly yours,

THE WASHINGTON POST PUBLISHING COMPANY

(Signed) EUGENE MEYER

President.

C O P Y

October 12, 1933.

Dear Dr. Reichelderfer:

In regard to the big electric sign which my good friend, Mr. Eugene Myer wishes to place across the front of the Washington Post Building, I would say that I have had a long talk with Mr. Myer on this subject and we have agreed to hold the matter in abeyance for the present.

The Commission have suggested that inasmuch as he has two signs on the building at present, he might light one or the other of them rather than destroy the architectural appearance of the building by placing upwards of 100 square feet of additional sign area.

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Hon. Luther H. Reichelderfer,
President, Board of Commissioners
of the District of Columbia,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT K-1

Washington, D. C.
September 29, 1933.

The Commission of Fine Arts,

Washington, D. C.

Gentlemen:

I note from the daily press that the erection of the Courts Building of the Municipal Center of the District is now under consideration by the Public Works Administration.

As Presiding Judge of the Police Court, one of the units to be housed in said Courts Building, may I take this opportunity and the liberty of presenting to you the dire necessity for the erection of such a building at the earliest possible moment?

As indicated in the enclosed report of the Congressional committee (which the Commission no doubt remember), the pressing need of a new Police Court was then stressed because of the deplorable conditions existing and these conditions still exist, but to a greater extent.

Besides the factors formerly mentioned, attention is called to the fact that there is no elevator in the building, necessitating aged and invalid persons having business in the United States Branch of the Court to climb the stairs to the fourth floor.

EXHIBIT L

The Act of Congress allowing women to serve on juries has also created an unsatisfactory and embarrassing condition in that there are no separate toilet facilities for them in the two small jury rooms and there is no space available for the installation of any.

Furthermore, all possible space for filing purposes has been exhausted and the Clerk is in a quandary as to what disposition to make of the fast accumulating dockets and informations.

As the volume of business increases there is an additional impetus to the noise and confusion existing in the halls and corridors which interferes with the orderly transaction of business, not only in the court rooms but also in the offices of the District Attorney and the Corporation Counsel's offices, which are often crowded to suffocation.

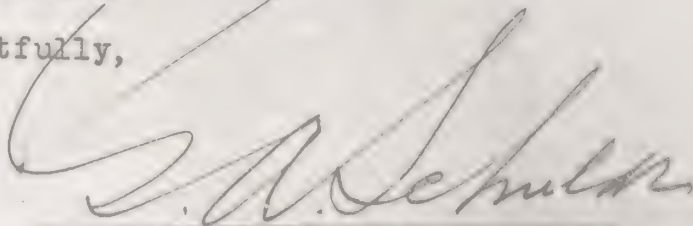
By reference to your files you will note the letter of Chairman Moore to Senator Capper relative to the dire necessity for a new Police Court, and one paragraph thereof is so vivid that I take the liberty of quoting it, viz:

"The present Police Court is badly planned, inadequate and dirty. It cannot be kept clean. I know from personal experience that the conditions in the Traffic Court are disgraceful and unspeakably bad. A Court should stand for the orderly administration of justice. At present there is no way to prevent the herding of all sorts and conditions of people. These conditions have been set forth in the Washington newspapers."

These newspaper criticisms, my correspondence with the Commission relative to the matter and the minutes of the Commission appointed to secure a new Police Court building, so ably recorded by your efficient Secretary, Mr. Caemmerer, will give you an insight as to our desperate plight.

With these conditions confronting us and appreciating your previous kind efforts in our behalf, may I not prevail upon your honorable Commission to bring this matter to the proper authorities to the end that this disgraceful situation may be remedied by the speedy erection of the Court unit of the new Municipal Center?

Respectfully,



Presiding Judge.

GAS/ews

Incl.

C O P Y

October 9, 1933.

Sir:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on October 6, 1933, had submitted to them by Mr. James Berrall, Supervisor of Construction of Freedmen's Hospital, a design for an internes' residence at 6th and College Streets, N. W.

The Commission approved the design with the suggestion that the entrance shown on the east elevation be simplified; also the Commission suggest that the break in the cornice as shown on the west elevation be omitted.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

The Honorable
The Secretary of the Interior,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT M

C O P Y

October 16, 1933.

Dear Mr. Cammerer:

Your letter of September 26, in regard to busts and other works of art for Meridian Hill Park brings up a subject which has long troubled the Commission of Fine Arts. I think that while you were still Secretary of the Commission, we prepared a report asking for a consideration of the bills for statues, etc. in the District of Columbia while those bills were still in committee. The powers that were and still are were not inclined to receive even suggestions on this subject and as a result the Commission of Fine Arts have usually (but not always) been required to find a place for a memorial which on more mature consideration might not have found a location at all in the city of Washington.

While it may be impossible to secure a rule by which bills shall be referred to the Commission for preliminary consideration, it is not at all beyond the possibility in individual instances of securing such consideration.

I think we might say in regard to Meridian Hill Park that no work of art should be placed there which is not a distinct addition to the park as a park and that the space should not be used primarily for memorializing any person. It was such an idea that influenced the sanction of the statue of Serenity, designed by one of the best

EXHIBIT N

known sculptors of Europe. The surprise came in finding so large a statue. Had it been done on a smaller scale, the result would have been more pleasing. As it is, we have for a long time tried to get a screen of planting to keep the statue from being conspicuously seen from Connecticut Avenue. May we have your cooperation in securing this result?

The little Joan of Arc, which is planned to stand under the trees on the terrace of Meridian Hill Park, was welcomed by the Commission because by universal consent of the artists, it is the finest equestrian statue of modern times. The growth of the trees on the terrace will give it an appropriate setting.

For the lower garden Mr. Jennewein has designed a sphere. This form was selected by the Commission of Fine Arts and the Commission also got Jennewein to do the designing. Mr. Vitale, who was responsible for the planting of Meridian Hill Park, felt the appropriateness and desirability of this form of an ornament. The sphere has been cast but the Commission have been hesitant to have it placed in the garden until such time as the lighting and the policing shall be effected.

In so far as the bust of Goethe is concerned, the Commission did not regard it as distinguished in execution and certainly would not wish to give to any but an American one of the two niches at the north end of the park. It is hoped that the planting will soon take away from the conspicuousness of the Dante and possibly

in time another location can be found for that statue. At any rate the Commission will cooperate with you most heartily in keeping the park inviolate so far as possible.

Cordially yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Mr. Arno B. Cammerer, Director,
National Parks, Buildings and
Reservations,
Interior Department,
Washington, D. C.

C O P Y

October 9, 1933.

Dear Dr. Kelly:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on October 6, 1933, had pleasure in visiting the headquarters building of the American Pharmaceutical Association, designed by John Russell Pope. The Commission can congratulate you and through you, the American Pharmaceutical Association, on the successful completion of this difficult and at times perplexing project. The building is an adequate and fitting portion of the frame of the Lincoln Memorial. For the hearty cooperation the Association has shown to bring about this result, this Commission express their appreciation and thanks.

The Commission were informed that the New York branch of the American Pharmaceutical Association is to bestow upon you the Remington Medal. The members congratulate you upon this well deserved honor.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Sincerely yours,

(Signed) Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Dr. E. F. Kelly, Secretary,
American Pharmaceutical Association,
10 West Chase Street,
Baltimore, Maryland.

EXHIBIT O

C O P Y

OLMSTED BROTHERS
Landscape Architects
Brookline, Massachusetts.

October 24th, 1933.

Mr. Gilmore D. Clarke,
County Office Building,
White Plains, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Clarke:

Thanks for your letter of October 23rd enclosing copy of letter of same date to Mr. Caemmerer about the trees for the Mall.

I entirely agree with you that we do not now know and that probably we shall not be able to determine with reasonable confidence for many months whether the Dutch Elm Disease is likely to make the further planting and maintenance of American Elms in this country impracticable as the Chestnut Blight did in the case of the American Chestnuts; or whether it will prove simply another one of many hazards to which practically all species of trees are subject and in spite of which they may be expected in most cases with proper care to survive. There have been many panics in regard to many species of trees which have later proved to be unfounded.

In this connection I would point out, for example, since you mention the Red Oak as a possible substitute for the American Elm in the Mall planting, that some years ago, about the time of the Gypsy Moth panic, several eminent authorities, including, if my memory does not mislead me, Professor Sargent, expressed the opinion that the Red Oak should no longer be planted as a shade and ornamental tree because of its special susceptibility to attack by the gypsy moth and certain other leaf-eating pests.

Of course if, in the near future, it becomes perfectly clear that the American Elm is going to be wiped out in this country on any such scale as the Chestnut was wiped out in the Chestnut Blight, some substitute will have to be selected for use on the Mall; and I agree with you that the Red Oak is one tree which should under such circumstances be very seriously considered. I do not agree that the White Oak should be so considered because the characteristic habit of its branching and foliage seems to me much too low and broad-spreading for this situation.

Sincerely yours,
(Signed) Frederick Law Olmsted.

EXHIBIT P

C O P Y

October 10, 1933.

My dear Major Blunt:

The Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on October 7, discussed your letter asking assistance in obtaining a medal for Cavalry.

There are so many medals being made nowadays that unless a new medal has real distinction, it is an honor to neither the donor nor the recipient. You can get a medal from a commercial firm for a small sum; but it will not be fine in design, and will not be a credit to your association. At the same time the profit to the makers will be large.

For centuries the designing and execution of medals has been an art employing sculptors of high reputation who have made medals that have been preserved because of their artistic qualities. In this country we have developed a number of excellent medalists, and their work is recognized and highly prized.

The designing of a good medal is an intense work of months. There must be high technical excellence on the part of the medalist and a keen sense of all those artistic qualities peculiar to this form of art. Each medal then becomes a work of the fine arts. Unless these results shall be attained it is not worth while to add to the number of medals which are only tokens.

Your problem involves primarily the modeling of a horse in action. For this medal the Commission recommend Mr. F. A. R. Roth, Englewood, New Jersey. The sculptor should receive \$1,500 for a design of obverse and reverse satisfactory to you, and if you so desire, to the Commission of Fine Arts (for which advice no compensation is paid). The artist will make a number of sketches before he develops the right one.

The cost of making the dies would be \$300, and the cost of striking 50 medals \$60. Afterwards your costs would be based on simply striking the medals.

The Commission are ready and willing to give you all the assistance in their power to achieve a result that will be creditable to you and add another to the none too long list of distinguished American medals. If you wish to talk the matter over, a personal interview can be arranged.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very sincerely yours,
(Signed) Charles Moore,
Chairman.

Major Wilfrid M. Blunt,
1624 H Street, N. W.,
Washington, D. C.

EXHIBIT Q

